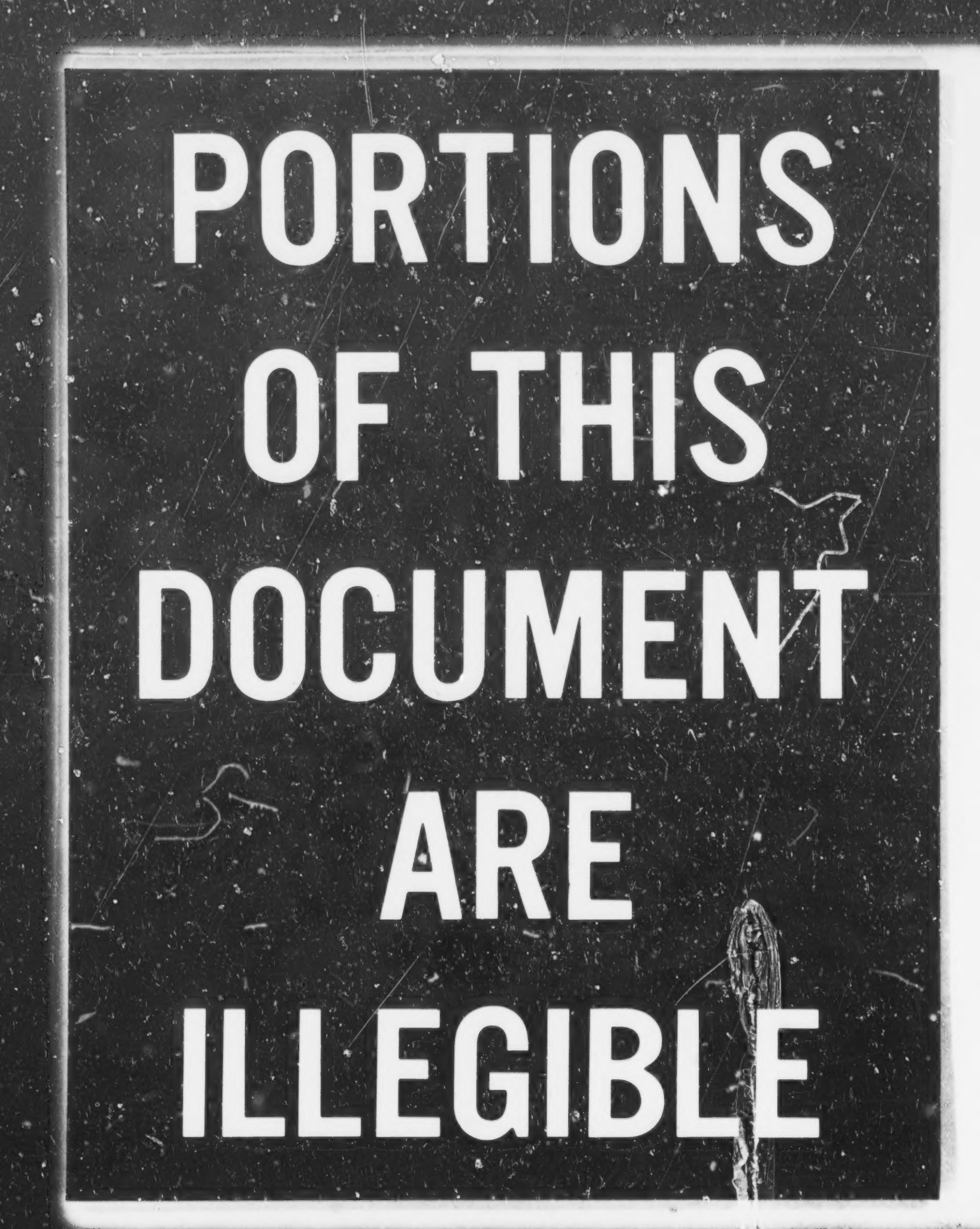
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ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

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ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE WEST

WORKSHOP:

CAN THE INDIVIDUAL'S VOICE BE HEARD?

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN ENERGY PLANNING

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ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE WEST

WORKSHOP

CAN THE INDIVIDUAL'S VOICE BE HEARD?

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN ENERGY PLANNING

10:45 A.M.
Tuesday,
September 21, 1976

Ralston Room
Sheraton Palace Hotel
San Francisco, California

Bowers Reporting Company

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(11:00 a.m.)

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Welcome, ladies and gentlemen.

Our first speaker will be Sylvia Siegel, President of Toward Utility Rate Normalization (T.U.R.N.).

Ms. Siegel.

PRESENTATION BY: MS. SYLVIA SIEGEL, PRESIDENT TOWARD UTILITY RATE NORMALIZATION (T.U.R.N.)

MS. SIEGEL: T.U.R.N. is a public interest group of technicians, advocates, engineers and economists who represent the small consumer interest before administrative, energy, and utility agencies.

For example, we represent the organized consumer groups, including the Berkeley Consumer Co-operative, the San Francisco Consumer Association, the Consumers Federation of California, and the citizens of a number of cities and counties before the California Public Utilities Commission.

We do the litigative work necessary to challenge unwarranted rate increases or anti-consumer measures. This includes appeals to the Supreme Court when required.

And, we engage in activities directed toward bringing about a conservation rate structure to meet the new times. I am also on the Consumer Advisory Committee of the Federal Energy Administration, and I was informed yesterday that, believe it or not, I would be appointed for a second session.

It really doesn't make any difference to me whether

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Mr. Tweedle-Dum or Tweedle-Dee gets elected President. We are still going to be stuck with these bureaucracies that are not responsive. We try very hard to make them responsive. You can be sure I actively participate in the day or two of our monthly meetings in Washington, hopefully to get reforms through to the top echelons of the bureaucracy so that we can get some response to the needs of people.

Now, I see the same lack in ERDA and my colleague here is going to address the ERDA Consumer Representation Plan.

I have to tell you that what is required is not tokenism. We have too much tokenism and my participation on the steering committee to set up this meeting was on the basis that the Regional Office, as an example, would set up a continuing public advisory group that would have input on policy making, at least at the regional level and hopefully to the national level to assist the powers that be in determining what our important energy policies should be.

We think it is important at the ERDA level, the FEA level, at the PUC level, at the Energy Commission level, and the latest experience I had that confirms that view is an experience before the Energy Commission that is now in the process of attempting to set standards for appliance efficiency.

I went to one meeting, and I was appalled to notice that there wasn't even one consumer type in that meeting that was overflowing with industry representatives. In other words,

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there was only a one side presentation. I finally convinced the five members of the Commission that they ought to have some sophisticated input into those proceedings to be sure that the standards were indeed feasible, proper and correct to achieve conservation, which is what we all wanted.

With the help of Consumers Union, who has occupied the field these many years, I hope to be able to put in significant and meaningful contributions on behalf of residential consumers who are the end users of these standards to give the Commission some help in considering the help before them. That is one small example.

There is hardly any public input at all before the Energy Commission, in spite of the fact that they are charged with tremendous decision making powers. That has to be remedied.

I can see, except for this experience in trying to set up this meeting, in my view, and maybe I am wrong, there is very little input in the ERDA decision making process, but I think ERDA is to be congratulated that they finally came around to the view of requiring conservation as a very important strategy in meeting our energy problem.

But nobody up there, at ERDA, at FEA, in the President's office, in the Governor's office here, in the PUC office here, in the Energy Commission here, is talking about the tough terms that are required before the public will

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believe the credibility of both the Government officials and those members of the industry, of the energy industry, who are telling us that there are energy difficulties until we have that kind of public pronouncement at the top level, and, until we have the kind of involvement at the grass roots level, as Richard Spohn suggested, going all the way up in the decision-making process, we are going to be in trouble, ladies and gentlemen. We all know that. I hope that, if ERDA really means what they say, they will listen; they will act quickly; we can still do it, and we can go on to make the corrections that are required.

I just want to tell you that I didn't believe that the utilities should be the only conduit for conservation, and it is incredible to the American public that the utilities should advertise for people to stop using their product any more than it is credible for General Motors to advertise and start telling their prospective customers, "Don't buy our product."

On the other hand, it is important to have public groups all over the state, all over the country, adopt conservation implementation strategies and all of the decision makers, all of the planners are ignoring implementation. Get the programs down to the people, the end use level, and you will find a greater acceptance.

I, for one, am going to continue to challenge PG&E

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and So. Cal Edison's large expenditures, switch now from -- where is Joseph DeYoung? He knows what I am going to say -- switch now from Mr. DeYoung's former sales department to now become a conservation department.

We can't kid the American public. They know what the important issues are in energy as in the election, and, just as it is in abortion, it sure isn't the issues that are being brought to the surface here by the administrators of the present program at all levels.

Thank you.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you, Sylvia Siegel.

Our next speaker is Dr. Phillip White.

PRESENTATION BY: DR. PHILLIP WHITE,
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR FOSSIL ENERGY,
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

DR. WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try again, and for the last time, I guess, at this meeting, to fill in for Bob Fri.

I think we have to keep in mind in this matter of the voice of the public to recognize the need to always look for the answer. The question we were asked in the General Session was what is this public? Which groups really should we listen to, which individuals?

It certainly isn't the Society of Petroleum Engineers, or AICHE, or Nuclear Engineers; it isn't the Sierra Club. On the other hand, they are members, and they deserve to be listened to just like other groups.

There are a number of techniques we are using. We are trying hard to listen to this voice, whatever it might be and from whichever sector it may come from. One, obviously, is this public meeting which we are holding here and which we will have held a number of, and which we will continue to hold. I don't know when we will be back to the West Coast, but I am sure we will be back, if not to San Francisco, to Los Angeles or Portland.

Remember, we are an R&D agency. We are developing technology, and some of the choices we have to make are technical choices. So, we do have meetings which are really meetings of technical groups, special workshops or regional meetings which are focused on a particular technical choice.

There was a meeting a couple of weeks ago in Tulsa on the enhanced oil recovery program of ERDA. The meeting was attended almost entirely by industry specialists, but, believe me, there was input to the ERDA program and choices in a very narrow technical field which were influenced by that input.

There is also a pattern of advisory committees, not perhaps as many as there should be. One of the things that has happened is that the Federal bureaucracy, Congress, really

has established that advisory committees, when we do have them, have to be very carefully structured, formally approved, and it is, frankly, a bit of a chore to set one up. It is not something you do just because it would be nice to have a bunch of people come in and give you advice. But we do have them.

We have a general advisory committee for ERDA. We have a technical advisory committee in the fossil area, where I am particularly responsible, and we try very carefully to structure that committee, which has only about 23 or 24 members, to have public interest members. We have a member of the Sierra Club on it, a member of a labor union, several people who really represent generally what we like to think of as the consumer interest.

There is another couple of channels you don't want to forget in the public voice. We get letters, and we try to answer every one of them. We may not get an answer out in a week like we would like to, but we do answer them. While some of them are sort of crank letters, and some of them simply reinvent the wheel, there are others which are very thoughtful and really do influence our thinking.

There is even the telephone, you know. We do answer the phone, and sometimes a person just calls up and says, "I have an idea; why don't you do so-and-so," or, "What is the purpose of this in your plan?" We do try to answer that, also. Obviously, those individual single inputs are not as

influential, but they are not negligible either. They are not ignored.

I know that Ray Walters is going to talk about the Consumer Representation Plan, which is another formalization of this effort, so I won't touch on that. I would, however, make one point that I think perhaps is being lost sight of.

There is a lot of talk about conservation. There is no question but what, in the field of conservation, there is going to be so much in individual reaction, individual choices, that, in this area particularly, we have to listen to the public.

We have elevated conservation to a top priority at ERDA, but, remember, as far as the technology that can be brought to bear on better ways to conserve energy, what can be done is somewhat limited. The best estimates are that, with real conservation programs -- everything we can think of in the way of insulation, smaller cars and industrial savings -- this might impact 30 percent of our consumption.

Now, 30 percent is a great deal, but that is going to be very tough to reach. It is going to cost a lot of money. To go beyond that is, I think, going to bring about some changes in our lifestyles that none of us would care to undertake if we don't absolutely have to, if we aren't forced to.

So, there are other parts of the program on the supply side which are also important. We are going to need

to make choices, and we need your input. So, let us keep a balance in looking at both of those and in helping us make the choices we need to make. If you are speaking as a member of the public, remember that you can affect our program and perhaps affect it in ways you want to by making your wishes known on both the supply side and the conservation side.

Thank you.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you, Dr. White. We particularly thank you for your conservation of time.

The next speaker is Ray Walters.

PRESENTATION BY: MR. RAY WALTERS,
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE ADMINISTRATOR,
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
ADMINISTRATION

MR. WALTERS: Thank you, Don.

If I could follow very briefly, now, on what Dr. White alluded to with regards to the consumer representation program in the short time available, I really do believe that the individual's voice is being heard louder and clearer in Government all the time, and that one solid example of this is the newer program that we are going to be hearing about.

This is the Consumer Representation Program which represents something relatively new in Government and something that I think is going to be with us no matter which administration either gains or retains office in November.

The Government, after all, is the largest business in this country: it is the most influential, the most wealthy, and so forth. Changes take time in the Federal government, and we have been working on the Consumer Representation Program now for almost a year. We haven't been making progress as fast as we had hoped, but I think that things are picking up here lately, and what I would like to do now is spend just a few minutes using the graphs over there to go into more depth and detail on our CRP.

ERDA's Consumer Representation Program began as part of the agency-wide effort throughout the entire Federal government in April of 1975, more than a year ago. As I mentioned, things don't happen very rapidly on a Federal-wide basis in the Federal government. It does take time to make significant changes.

The first milestone that was reached as part of the CRP was the publication of a draft plan back in November of last year, and public hearings were held on that plan. All of this was taking place as a result of a Presidential mandate and follow-on activities from the Office of Management and Budget and the Office of Consumer Affairs.

Since that time, there have been something like ten White House conferences held throughout the nation in various regional centers. Following closely thereon was one public meeting conducted by ERDA on the CRP, and that was held last

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February in Washington, D.C.

There have also been Consumer Advisory Council sessions chaired by the Office of Consumer Affairs in Washington by Virginia Knauer.

Where we stand right now with regard to the Consumer Representation Program in ERDA is the imminent publication of the plan which has now gone through several drafts and has been revised and, I believe, improved by public comment, by other agency comments, and by our own internal review. That plan will be published in the Federal Register any day now. It is about ready to be signed off on by the President, along with other agency plans.

The basic purpose of the Consumer Representation Program -- and these words were rather carefully chosen -- is to assure that responsible consumer opinion is considered as part of ERDA's decision-making process. That bears repeating. To assure that responsible consumer opinion is considered as part of ERDA's decision-making process.

It doesn't mean, of course, that we will be expected to agree with all consumer opinion or that we will have time to sit down with every concerned consumer, or that every single decision will benefit by consumer input, but it does mean that, generally speaking, in our key decision areas from now on consumer input will be required as a consideration, and that really, in a nutshell, is what the program and ERDA are

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all about. From there on, it is a matter of how we do it.

Now, we are not doing this, of course, as a public service. There is real benefit to be gained from consumer input. Sylvia Siegel was concerned about input and how to do it, and we think that the consumer program in ERDA will be a key factor in making sure that, over the long haul, for all the basic key decisions that there will be that kind of input vouchsafed.

As far as ERDA is concerned, it will mean that we will have a more effective decision-making process, that the non-technological -- what I call the real world factors -- are cranked in to the basic decision-making process.

It, of course, will also afford a realization and internalization, if you will, of basic regional differences in energy needs, in energy souces, energy problems of all kinds.

Eventually, if all goes well, it should result -- again, talking about benefits as far as ERDA is concerned -- it should result in greater public acceptability of our energy technologies which, after all, is why we are here. We are not here simply to spend automatically the billions of dollars that Congress appropriates to us every year. It must be spent wisely, and the public acceptability aspect of what we do and what we succeed in doing via the research and development and demonstration programs -- all of that is very

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important in terms of achieving public acceptability.

As far as the consumer is concerned, it, of course, will help them evaluate and to understand and become a part of the energy choices that we are developing. They, of course -- you -- have and will continue, I trust, to express concerns about the safety of our energy technologies, about the environmental acceptability, about the economic impact and, last but not least, the lifestyle compatibility of what we are doing. All of this is crucial to the success of implementing the energy technologies that we are developing.

The basic methods that we use are pretty well known to you, I am sure. Public meetings such as this, workshops, quasi-legal hearings, information dissemination, environmental impact statements and that entire process, correspondence and complaint handling, advance notice of rule making where applicable and advisory committees that Dr. White alluded to earlier -- all of this is the process, and it must be implemented in the best way possible.

I, myself, work in the front office of ERDA, and I have been charged by the administrator to see to it that all significant elements of ERDA carry out the plan, the intentions for making sure that responsible consumer opinion is fully considered as part of our decision making process.

Some of the current actions that we have underway -- to give you a more specific idea in the short time remaining --

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are to take our agency-wide plan and develop it in more detail in terms of the basic energy technology areas: the nuclear area, the fossil area, the solar area, the geothermal area, and so on. Those more specific area plans are now under development and should be completed in about two months. Following on the specific area plans will be regional plans, which will take the area plans and translate them into regional plans of action.

Any of you who are interested in receiving any of this documentation should fill out the cards that you all have been given and leave your name, and so forth, with me, with the moderator after the session, and we will see to it that you get copies of these plans.

Now, if this sounds like a lot of planning to you, it, of course, is, but I happen to feel very strongly that, before we move out, everybody must have a clear understanding and a general consensus as to what it is we should be doing. The planning takes time when you are involving so many programs. The programs are important, and they cannot be tampered with lightly. So we have to be sure of what we are doing, and, of course, that also involves your input.

The public input to these plans will be a continuing thing, and you will have continuing opportunities to do that through these public meetings once these plans are published and in other ways.

That, in essence, is what I have to say about ERDA's Consumer Representation Program. It is relatively new to Government. It is especially new to ERDA. Being a high technology agency, it is not always easy to make our people understand that they have to pause and stand back from their programs and understand just what some of the real concerns of the public are. It is very easy to get all wrapped up in the technical niceties of the program. In fact, it is more comfortable for a lot of people to do that. But I can assure you that, as ERDA goes along in the future months, that the Consumer Representation Program will be a major step forward in assuring, as I said, responsible consumer opinion being fully considered as part of ERDA's decision making process.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you, Mr. Walters.

Our next speaker is Jim Harding.

PRESENTATION BY: MR. JIM HARDING,
SPECIAL ADVISOR TO COMMISSIONER
RONALD DOCTOR,
CERCDC

MR. HARDING: Let me begin by saying that we are not going to have adequate public views expressed before Government agencies, administrative agencies, until the public has access to carefully worked out, adequate information, and it is my feeling that the Federal agencies have not, over the past few years, been capable of supplying the information on which

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intelligent decisions can be made.

It is very difficult to receive the kind of information that is necessary to make a competent, well-reasoned argument on what our energy future should look like. For example, in August of 1975, the Bechtel Company published a report called the Energy Supply Planning Model that, if you dig far enough into it, says that President Ford's energy program, announced at the start of that year, cannot be done. You don't see that reflected in very many ERDA planning documents, nor do you see it reflected in the Project Independence Blue Print or in subsequent publications of Federal agencies.

The reason it can't be done is that there is insufficient capital to build it. If you calculate from the Bechtel Energy Supply Planning Model the requirements for a 6-1/2 percent electric growth rate and the rest of the program, you will find out that it takes a little over a trillion of today's dollars to build it, $1.1 trillion.

You can aggregate the amount of net private domestic investment that would be available to all of the sectors of the American economy between now and 1985 -- the end of the program -- and you come to the conclusion that the energy sector must absorb something like 50 to 60 percent of total net private domestic investment in the U.S. as opposed to its current 25 percent, and that the electric utility industry must consume something in the neighborhood of 30 to 40 percent as

opposed to its present ten percent.

Now, in order to do that, of course, you have to distort, in a very major and significant way, all of the other social benefits that we have in the United States that require major capital investment. Housing and education are two of the biggest ones. Health is another.

You find out that the energy program that you supposedly thought you could build a few months ago can't be done without affecting all of the other sectors of the American economy. You don't hear that reflected very often in Federal pronouncements.

Now, let me move on to a question that is particularly interesting to me, and that is what information must the Federal government provide in order to guarantee that the individuals have some sort of access to and sufficient information for intelligent decision making.

The first thing that I would like to suggest would be that agencies construct a set of scenarios. Instead of forecasting growth rates into the future at 2 percent to 6 percent, you describe what the future looks like 30, 50 years from now. Some environmental groups have advocated a future which is entirely fueled by non-renewable energy resources and perhaps involves using half as much per capita energy as we use today.

And you ask yourself what has to be done to get

there. It becomes quickly apparent that it requires minimal electrification, probably major use of district heating and cooling, massive decentralization and very judicious use of fossil fuels.

But we know that sort of thing is done today in some of the Scandinavian countries where they use roughly half the energy that we use to produce the same amount of gross national product.

You also construct a scenario that involves massive use of electric automobiles, six or seven percent growth rate, total replacement of fossil fuels, if that is possible, and you try to paint as descriptive a picture of society 50 years hence as possible.

On the basis of this, on the basis of these almost qualitative pictures of what an energy system looks like, of what a society fueled by radically different approaches to energy planning look like, you toss it up to a vote of the people. This accomplishes two things:

First of all, you probably get some sort of direction from the people on what kind of energy future they want to leave to their children. What do they want to see 30 or 50 years from now?

The other thing is you hold individuals who are making planning decisions today, who are forecasting today, accountable for the future they create, and this, it seems to

me, is absolutely essential if the public is to have a basis for making intelligent decisions about what we should do this year and next in funding all types of energy research, in electing officials and in plotting out strategies.

That is where I would end.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you very much, Mr. Harding.

Our final speaker from the table is Thomas Graf.

PRESENTATION BY: MR. THOMAS GRAF,

REGIONAL COUNSEL,

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

MR. GRAF: Public Participation in Energy Planning: Can the Individual's Voice be Heard. That is the topic of our discussion here, and I am tempted, as the last of six panelists, given ten minutes to speak at the end of a long morning, simply to answer the question, no, and be done with it.

But I suppose that I can't resist using the form provided me, so I will spend just a few moments with you qualifying slightly my simple negative.

In the Nixon-Ford years, voices representing corporate interests, including, particularly, presidents and vice presidents of utilities and multi-national oil companies, have been heard, it is true. Not just by ERDA, Interior and FEA, but in the White House and even at Burning Tree. How many

environmentalists do you know who play golf with the President?

Voices representing environmental and consumer interests, on the other hand, have been heard, if at all, only in the courthouses of the nation and occasionally in the halls of Congress and in the state legislatures. Those are the simple facts.

True, six weeks before California will deliver the highest number of electoral votes of any state in the presidential election, we are gathered together here in a session in which John O. Public's voice is, supposedly, being heard. But does anyone -- either my fellow public interest panelists or those representatives of the Energy Research and Development Administration who have flown 3,000 miles to be with us today -- really take seriously the words that are being spoken?

Decison makers in this administration, we all know, respond not to environmentalists or to consumers, but rather to a value system which puts its faith in the wisdom and, more importantly, in the financial interests of corporate America.

In such a milieu, those representatives who attempt to voice diffuse concerns about our environment or about the pocketbook interests of the many have been given short shrift.

Now, what has this administration brought us? We have a public which rightly is deeply cynical about the motives and capabilities of our government, corporate and,

I might add, scientific elites. We have large numbers of environmentally concerned citizens who rightly deplore the disregard for wilderness values, for conservation and for human health and safety which have characterized this administration's energy policies. We have a public that has seen enormous wasting of taxpayer dollars poured into subsidies for such monstrosities as the breeder reactor. We have a public that also has seen a mean-spirited and downright stupid de-emphasis of alternate technologies -- solar, geothermal, and the like -- and of conservation schemes which hold promise, not only for a more benign relationship between energy production and our environment, but also for energy delivery systems that are more efficient and, thus, less polluting.

This is the administration which championed the Trans-Alaska pipeline at an enormous human and environmental cost, and yet to what purpose? To create a mammoth oil surplus in the Western United States at the expense of our shorelines and our already polluted air, while the East and Midwest become increasingly dependent on unstable Middle East sources.

Yet has this administration learned from its mistakes? No. It now is championing even more dangerous oil development projects offshore Alaska one can only suppose so that our Western surplus becomes even greater and our environment be damned.

This administration has also championed nuclear

power, yet it has given us no answers as to how the fuel cycle can be closed safely and for ever or how our civil liberties can be preserved in a plutonium economy.

This administration champions coal development, yet it has opposed even the mild strip mine regulation bill which, for anyone who cares about our land and our water, is an absolute prerequisite to any serious effort to mine Western coal.

When it comes to conservation, on the other hand, this administration has opposed mandatory conservation standards either for fuel economy or for appliances arguing that the marketplace should be king and should determine what each of us consumes. Yet this same administration has championed enormous synthetic fuel development subsidies, ignoring there as inconvenient its alleged commitment to free enterprise.

Thus, it is quite willing to put Occidental Petroleum and the Bechtel Corporation, with its potent administration retirees, on the public dole, while it is unwilling to compel industry to make fuel efficient cars, appliances and buildings.

A word is apt here before I conclude about the Bechtel Corporation, since it has been my colleagues from ERDA here on the podium who have recently been the bagmen for the likes of Schultz and Weinberger -- Nixon men who left the White House, no doubt from multi-million dollar salaries at Bechtel.

The ERDA-backed Ford Administration proposal to raid the Federal Treasury by providing Bechtel an exclusive taxpayer subsidized and guaranteed entry into the uranium enrichment industry is a special atrocity that deserves special mention, and this for a company whose engineering talents have brought us BART and the Trans-Alaska pipeline.

It is, ladies and gentlemen, a sorry record, but, for once, I am pleased to have been given the opportunity to tell it like it is. In that sense, we can be thankful for a society that still gives its critics an occasional platform from which to voice their objections to the policies of our national government. Whether, in the words of our panel topic, these voices are heard is another matter. Answering that question I leave to each of you.

Thank you.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Well, with your permission, I would like to change the format here. We were supposed to hear from six individuals for three minutes each right now, but I kind of like to have a little free-flowing.

Does anyone want to shoot a question at the panel? Yes, sir.

We won't forget about the six people who were promised time.

MR. GOODMAN: My name is Samuel Goodman. At the moment I am a free-lance poet.

It seems to me that we have a quixotic situation here in this FPDA public relations fandango. It is a case where the assassin must have the approval and the applause of his victim.

Now, in order to have genuine public appreciation and understanding so that we can have a participatory relationship, we need information. Now, how in the hell are you going to get information when John Hill, the Assistant Administrator of the FEA, tears up and destroys records on natural gas regulation which may be beneficial to the cause of the public, when John Nassikas, the former chairman of the FPC, destroys information on the concentration and lack of competition and monopoly interests in natural gas fields? How are you going to get the necessary information which is of a technical nature and which is hidden in the mumbo-jumbo and double-talk of the regulatory agencies where anyone who so much as whispers a public interest sentiment is blacklisted and told to take a long vacation?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay. I think we got your point.

MR. GOODMAN: Now, I raise my voice in objection to this facade, this rather grotesque facade, of public collaboration with a regulatory agency that has attempted to destroy public initiative and public action right here in the state of California, and I put that question to the representatives

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from ERDA. In what respect do they expect to expiate their sins by some sort of a functional and practical relationship with the public?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay. Whoever would like to respond, you have a question and a gauntlet all wrapped up into one. Who would like to respond? Who would respond even if you wouldn't like to?

MR. WALTERS: I am not sure that I can begin to respond fully to your concerns. One of my problems is that there is a lack of specific detail as to what it is you are talking about.

Let us keep in mind that this is the Energy Research and Development Administration's public meeting, and, while there may be some genuine and valid concerns on your part as to the FEA problems or innuendoes, I am not sure that we can respond to those kinds of concerns.

As for ERDA, I can only say that we are a relatively new agency, as an agency. We have been in existence now for a little bit more than a year and a half.

We were put together by Congressional statute for the express purpose of trying to balance the development of energy technologies. I don't believe that we have any hidden motives. I don't believe that we have any hidden modus operandi. Everything we do, I genuinely believe, is above board. The contracting, et cetera, is all in the public record.

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So, that is a general response, but I have to respond generally, because I really don't know from ERDA's standpoint exactly what these specific concerns are.

MR. GOODMAN: Could I make a comment on this --

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: No. I think we are going to give someone else a chance. Thank you very much.

Yes, sir.

MR. WILKINS: I would like to direct this question to the Deputy Administrator of ERDA, Dr. White. I realize you are not that, but you are representing him. My question is specifically about a specific grant to the Shell Oil Company --

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Could you give us your name, please.

MR. WILKINS: My name is Fred Wilkins of Fresno. Specifically a grant of $5 million or so to the Shell Oil Company for experimentation in the Coalinga area in Fresno County.

Number one, it seems to be true that most of the money from ERDA for experimental purposes is going to the majors -- call them whatever you want. I will just call them the majors -- would you take this specific example and show us whether the Federal government in its budget is subsidizing Shell Oil Company? Is Shell Oil Company returning this money to ERDA? Can you take this one example and show how it got started, how it got its money, does it get any refund, and why didn't anyone

in Fresno County -- I shouldn't say "anyone", but most of the political leaders, and so forth -- know a thing about this?

DR. WHITE: I assume you are referring to a grant for work in enhanced recovery of oil that was given to Shell.

MR. WILKINS: Right.

DR. WHITE: Yes. Do you know when that was given? I am sorry that I don't know the details. I think it was a program that got started before ERDA was formed.

MR. WILKINS: I really don't know the details. I am just concerned with the statements that have been made that ERDA bends over backwards to give all its money to the majors.

DR. WHITE: The program of which this is a part, and this is one I am quite familiar with, because this is in the fossil energy area, which is my responsibility, is for enhanced oil recovery research.

The normal processes of oil production after the well stops flowing is to flood the formation with water which is called secondary recovery. Typically when this is done there is still 2/3 of the oil left in the ground. The means of recovering that is something that has been a subject of research in the industry for at least 15 years, and a good deal of industry money has already been spent to try to develop techniques, and the only techniques known are some way to affect the flowability of that oil, either heating it up with steam or combustion, diluting it with solvents, or treating it with --

MR. WILKINS: Sir, I don't mean to interrupt you, but that is not my question. My question is this: We are paying increased money at the pump, and that money is supposed to go for this type of experimentation, and so forth. Now I come here and I find that additional money is going to the majors for this work that they promised us they would do on their own with the money that we are paying at the pump. Now, why is it that way?

DR. WHITE: The program has been subject to the usual procurement procedures of the Government, certainly the ones that I am familiar with in the last year since I have been there, where we wanted additional testing. There has been a lot of soul searching about is there really a Federal role in this program where the majors were working to try to expedite it.

I think I really don't have the time to answer fully. There is a feeling that we had that enlarged the statistical base, because every formation is different. If we were really going to develop confidence in this, we had to have lots of tests, and it was fairly apparent from everything we could get on the best advice of the industry -- large and small -- that we needed to expand this program, and we have expanded it, and there are contracts with Shell, with Phillips, with City Service. But there are also contracts with Husky, with a small company somewhere up in Bradford -- I don't even remember the

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name of it.

We tried to distribute it, because we have also recognized that much of the technology is in the hands of the majors, and one of the clear roles of the Government is to transfer technology by subsidizing programs where one of the requirements is to make the information public so that it does get into the hands of small oil companies for the individual entrepreneur who only has maybe a few wells on his farm.

We are trying to do this, but, inevitably, some of the program is in the hands of very competent companies who developed a lot of the know-how. One of the things we get from the taxpayer's money going into that is the flow of that information and the patent rights to it going to the public.

MR. WILKINS: Sir, I am sorry, and I am going to sit down after I make this statement.

I get tired of hearing this. With the oil companies buying up Montgomery Ward's, the Barnum and Bailey Circus, et cetera, they promised us they would use this money for this kind of work, and they have not done it. They have just gone out and bought up large corporations.

Now, I think it is very obvious, when ERDA channels more money to the majors, that the deck is stacked.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you.

MR. BROWN: My name is John Brown. I am an engineer and a teacher.

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I have a question I believe for Dr. White, and it goes like this: In the good old days, we used to have the AEC which was charged with both selling the stuff and regulating its safety. Today we have two separate administrations, so we are now talking to ERDA about development and research, and I am still wondering -- knowing that, for instance, if you go up to that beautiful nuclear plant in Sacramento, that the two great towers are not designed to resist any earthquake forces, because, after all, California doesn't have any earthquakes, and various other things -- I wonder how do we get to the people who are controlling the safety, who are controlling the quality that the low bidder puts into the development of the power plants that are originated through ERDA.

DR. WHITE: The particular procedures that are involved in the licensing of a nuclear plant are ones with which I am sorry to say I am not very familiar. I don't think Mr. O'Connor is here who is the Deputy for Nuclear Work in ERDA, but, to the best of my understanding, there are procedure, in the final approval of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission which has to license the final installation which does provide for public input and hearings on the suitability of site.

I would think that that, really, is the point at which to make an input on a question of that technical nature.

MR. BROWN: No, sir. That is not what I meant. I meant, for instance, that an organization that builds a

nuclear power plant where the emergency coolant liquid is sent through pipes where developments have only 5 percent inspection, and they get new and additional funds to provide more and more facilities of the same quality, isn't there any feedback to ERDA as to whom to license or whom to finance on the basis of their performance?

DR. WHITE: I am sorry. I guess I am a little dense. I don't really understand the point at which you feel there is an input.

Now, the design of a plant like that is generally in the hands of a contractor or engineering firm who is awarded the contract on a competitive basis, based not just on low cost, but on experience and general competence, also.

But there is, of course, a continuing concern in the groups in ERDA responsible for the technology of these reactors learning from experience. I do think, however, that it is appropriate at this point to simply point to the experience record of the nuclear reactors that are in operation. They have not been perfect, but I think their record is pretty extraordinary large, comparable process facility.

MR. BROWN: Not according to Congressional record.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay. This gentleman has been patiently waiting. Sir.

MR. SCHMIDT: My name is Steve Schmidt, and I am with the Marin County Energy Planning Group.

My question is directed to Mr. Walters. I was really interested in what you said about your Consumer Representation Program.

My question is what specific consumer action groups have been in your consumer advisory group which is helping ERDA plan your Consumer Representation Program and what specific input or power have they had in that program since its inception in April of 1975?

MR. WALTERS: Right. Within ERDA, we established a consumer representation action group composed of representatives of all significant elements of ERDA. They have been putting the plans together. They have been consulting where possible with their own interest groups, including consumer interest groups.

However, there is at the present time no single consumer advisory committee in ERDA. That is under active consideration. It is one of the work items as part of my group.

There are three, and maybe four, alternatives under active consideration right now. The consumer advisory committee is one of those. So, we won't know for another couple months whether the administrator wants to establish a single consumer advisory committee or rely on other means to assure continuing consumer input.

MR. SCHMIDT: Then I understand that there are not any public consumer action groups involved in the Consumer

Representation Program in the planning stages.

MR. WALTERS: There is not a single group that took part in the development of that plan, that is true. However, as I indicated earlier, in the preparation of that plan there was a public meeting held on the draft plan back in February of 1975 in Washington, plus there were ten White House conferences held on the consumer rep plans in general around the country where the public was invited to come in. FEDA participated in four of those very directly and significantly.

So, we feel that, in the preparation of our plan which is now about to be published, that there was meaningful consumer input.

MR. SCHMIDT: I don't see how.

MS. SIEGEL: Mr. Moderator, could I ask a question at this point?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Yes.

MS. SIEGEL: Could I ask a question and make a recommendation? One, that a special consumer advisory committ be structured representative of active consumers in the field of energy, two, that a special appropriation be sought to pro vide that advisory committee with the technical expert witnesses or consultation it may require to make recommendati to the top administration, and three, that a majority of publ members be appointed to all other technical advisory committe of the public, that the consumer advisory committee be

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consulted on membership in the other technical advisory committees.

I know, or I fear, the kind of consumer representation plan that will come out of this process and that has the blessing of Virginia Knauer, who is -- well, I won't mention it.

Let us not just give it a name. Let us just give it some real work to do and a real mission and real input and a real program. Without those elements, consumers that you can select anywhere -- everybody is a consumer -- are mere tokens.

Can you carry back that recommendation?

MR. WALTERS: We will be very happy to carry that recommendation back, and, in fact, it is not a new idea, of course. It is under consideration, but that will give it greater impetus.

Let me make one more comment about this plan. The word "plan" is not very descriptive. Let us keep in mind, when we talk about a consumer representation plan, what we are talking about in terms of the essence of that plan.

The essence of the plan is to identify the key decision areas, the key decision making processes that will take place in ERDA over the next few years and link the consumer input into those processes. In other words, to make ERDA more accessible in its key decision making areas to interested consumer input.

That is what we mean by "developing the plan". It

is difficult to identify those key decision making points and processes in the timing in which consumer input can have greatest impact.

We are developing six major energy technologies plus many other ancillary-type technologies. It is a complex plan, and it does take time. I really don't think that our effort in ERDA is tokenism. It is much more than that. It is a serious effort. I guess time will tell, and, if you don't want to take our word for it, I do encourage you to read these plans as they are published, and we will be more than happy to receive your reactions either individually or as part of the public meetings, such as this, or in any other way that you desire.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Is Jessie Lanning here?

MS. LANNING: Here.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Would you like to say a few words?

MS. LANNING: Mr. Chairman, gentlemen and ladies, my name is Jessie Lanning, and I reside at 1413 Flower Street, Bakersfield, California. My qualifications as a participant here are 20 years a member of the Kern County Private Property Owners Association, a non-profit organization for the protection of private property ownership and rights. I was 17 years as Secretary-Manager, 15 years a registered legislative advocate in the state of California representing KCPOA, and United

States alternate delegate on the Urban Renewal Subcommittee of the World Congress on Housing and Planning in Jerusalem in 1964.

I am here, because a consortium of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the Pacific Gas and Electric, and the Southern California Edison Company propose to construct the largest nuclear plant in the United States at a site near the middle of our county's farmland 33 miles from Bakersfield.

The proposed plant is to be known as the San Joaquin Valley Nuclear Project. Since it is proposed to be constructed near the town of Wasco, we refer to it as the Wasco A Plan. It will cost more than $6 billion. It will have 16 cooling towers.

I attended the presentation of KRDA in Bakersfield recently. This meeting was not publicized by KRDA to any extent that I know of or any of my friends know of in Kern County. The only reason we found out about it is that the Director of the Board of Trade received a notice, and he took it over to the Bakersfield "Californian" the Thursday before the KRDA meeting was to be held on Monday.

We gleaned from that that Report No. 76-1 was to be given to the people. We had no idea what was in 76-1. We thought, perhaps, it was the first report in 1976.

Now, in the future, if there are meetings of KRDA in our vicinity, I would suggest they be held in the amphitheatre of Bakersfield College. There are students there

interested in science, and they would be glad to have that information.

We wanted to talk about the proposed nuclear plant, but our questions were cut off, and the only perspective that I remember in those pictures of a nuclear plant presented on the screen was black and white with one cooling tower.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Can you bring your remarks to a conclusion?

MS. LANNING: I think that, since I wrote in for time, and you have given time to others who didn't take advantage of that fact to be scheduled, that I should be allowed to give what I presented. However, in deference to you and your evident apparent --

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Flattery will get you everywhere. Why don't we --

MS. LANNING: Well, I actually wasn't flattering. I was sort of insinuating.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: You are one up, which gives you one more minute. Then I turn into something else.

MS. LANNING: I would like to have the audience judge whether I should have one minute or three.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: We don't have to go into that. Please, you are going to have an opportunity and so are others. Please do continue.

MS. LANNING: All through our schooling, we were

taught that Government is by and for the people, that we elect representatives, that they are responsible to us the people. It is frightening to us citizens to find that in reality we are forced to deal with bureaus and agencies we cannot control through the voting process.

ERDA concocted the national plan for energy development and, as a matter of routine, presented it to the people. They don't actually care how many people come to these meetings. They can write in their report that they had the meeting and there were very few people there and that the people aren't interested which is why they weren't there. But, actually, the people didn't even know about the meeting.

Congressman Helms said last week that the bureaucracy of Washington had grown to such an extent in power that the Congress could no longer control it, and I think that, when this happens in our Government which is supposed to be representative and the people who govern us be elected, that it is either time to let these bureaus elect their premier and throw out the President and the Congress and all the President's advisors and call it a politburo.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you very much, Ms. Lanning.

MR. THORN: Mr. Chairman, can I respond to the first part of that question?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Yes.

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MR. THORN: In our meeting in Bakersfield, as I mentioned last night, was not a terrific success. We depended upon the media to communicate to the people that such a meeting was going to take place. We flooded the media with information about what the meeting was about, where it was going to be held, kind of the ground rules that were involved.

Unfortunately, the media did not pass that on. That was our mistake. We should have followed it up ourselves and brought that to your attention. That is a lesson we have learned.

MR. WILKINS: You notified the media the week of the meeting, and that is not soon enough for people who are busy. You got them out, but you got them out just a couple days before the meeting.

MS. LANNING: The paper didn't even know about it until the Director of the Board of Trade brought them over the notice. If there was any flooding to be done, it was something like the dry season in the Valley. No rain.

MR. THORN: That is a lesson we learned, and I appreciate your comments.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay. Thank you.

MR. HARDING: May I make a brief comment?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Yes.

MR. HARDING: In June of this year, the legislature passed three bills that prohibit the California Energy

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Commission from licensing any additional nuclear power plants until they have conducted some fairly detailed analyses into the possibility of undergrounding them and into the back end of the fuel cycle. Over the past month, month and a half, the Commission has endeavored to interpret these bills as broadly as possible and allow for maximum public participation in hearings and in awarding contracts for critical views on these technologies to members of the public, to public interest groups.

If members of this audience have suggestions on how an individual's voice can be better heard in this decision making process on the state level, I would appreciate hearing them.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay. Is Albert Moorhead here?

MR. MOORHEAD: Here.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Did you want to comment on what was just said?

MR. MOORHEAD: Yes.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay. One moment, please.

A VOICE: I get the state energy releases, but if you segregate your important business from all the razzle-dazzle that goes on so you can pick out these meetings, then some people who get this material might be able to come up with an idea.

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MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay. That is pretty pointed.

MR. WILKINS: Mr. Chairman, there is a very significant thing here that he just said related to this lady.

My name is Fred Wilkins from Fresno.

I have read the six volumes on the Wasco plant, beautiful environmental impact, and all the rest. I went to the hearing. I testified. I said, "They are raping the Valley of our water like they did Owens Valley," and they are. They are trying to do it.

They came back and said that they are going to use dirty water, which is a lie. They can't do it.

Now, my question is this: At the hearing it was said that the state commission under these new bills had to go in themselves for an impact study, had to do all this stuff over again. So you are having duplication of the largest atomic plant. Is that correct? Will there have to be another impact study, and will this be duplicated now under these new bills you mentioned?

MR. HARDING: It won't be duplicated under the bills. There is a possibility that we may do an impact study for other reasons, and one may be that the impact study that you have read -- the two volumes of the draft statement and the four volumes of the final statement -- is not adequate.

MR. WILKINS: Who has authority to approve or reject this plan? Does the Commission have the authority?

MS. LANNING: I will tell you who. It is the state of California and the utilities --

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Can you just give a brief answer?

MS. LANNING: -- arranged that by bring about the bill.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Moorhead.

MR. MOORHEAD: Thank you. We are going to change just a little bit from nuclear. My name is Albert E. Moorhead. I am from the Planning Commission, County of Lake, and our interest up there is geothermal.

Lake County represents a unique combination of responsibilities. On one hand, we have been blessed with a large share of the nation's geothermal resource. The bulk of the geysers, KGRA, covers nearly all of our southern county. Now BOM has extended a KGRA area on the west side of the county and on the east side of the county. Approximately 50 percent of our county is in some KGRA area.

Some dozen major oil and geothermal companies are actively involved in exploration. Estimates of potential production range to 4,000 mw. At the present time, the geysers area has approximately 500 megawatts in production.

Lake County feels a responsibility to develop the resource, to aid in ERDA goal, to expand the domestic supply

of energy. At the same time, Lake County has an equal responsibility to protect the citizenry from the harmful effects of uncontrolled energy resource development.

Many of our residents have moved here specifically to get away from industrialization and to live near Clear Lake and our scenic mountains. This includes a large percentage of approximately 25 percent of our population who are retired people. We have such institutions as Maharishi International, which is Transcendental Meditation. We have the Don Horse Commune, which is a religious commune which has meditation. Then we have the Redbud Audubon Society which has a large acreage, which has been donated to them for a bird sanctuary.

Our citizens are well known throughout the state for their vociferous opinons. In response to these two potentially conflicting responsibilities, the Lake County Planning Commission has resolved to provide numerous occasions for public input to discuss decision making on all local levels. This is on all wells, and has been on the pipeline to the power plants.

PUC at the present time has power plants. I understand the California Energy Commission is taking power plants and now they also want pipelines.

We have stated many times we will follow California Environmental Quality Act, CEQA, to the letter. At the same time, we are beginning to proceed with an innovative management

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plan for our geothermal resources to provide for its further development while still insuring the adequate development and protection of our important resources, and this is where we need help from ERDA.

We have a problem with hydrogen sulfide. We need technology to combat this so our citizens are protected from it. We need maybe reassessment of permitted levels of hydrogen sulfide, and we need help in the forming of our program, and this is where we feel that ERDA will be the most helpful to our country. That is working with the local government to provide this type of technology.

Also, I believe now the county has been put on the mailing list, but we heard about this meeting around-about. where we are possibly going to be a potential major producer of energy, we feel that we should be on a mailing list.

Thank you.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you very much.

MR. LIVINGSTON: Thank you very much for the time. That is a tough act to follow, but in reference to what I have heard today --

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Can you give us your name, please?

MR. LIVINGSTON: I am George Livingston. I will be moderating this afternoon. I am from Pacific Gas and Electric Company, and I am also a former mayor of the city of Richmond.

One of the things I notice is that there seems to be a communications problem. Quite a number of speakers have said they heard about the meeting indirectly, and I have a question to Mr. Walters.

In reference to the comments that you are hearing today, how long will it be before we get some kind of feedback as to what ERDA will be doing about those comments that you have heard?

I will replay the tape by saying, Listen to the comments that you have heard today. How long will it be before we will know what you have done about these particular ideas that you picked up here in San Francisco, knowing that you are meeting around the country?

I think, when you put together the package, you are going to come up with a beautiful surprise for the people of America.

But, in reference to what I am thinking, I know you are going through some growing pains, and we will excuse you for that. But this is something that is hot on the agenda, and I would, as a citizen of this area, like to know when you are going to move on what you are hearing here today.

MR. THORN: Can I answer that, please?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Please.

MR. THORN: The transcript of the entire proceedings will be completed within five days after the meeting has

concluded, and, therefore, all of the comments, every bit of input, will be available to be digested.

Secondly, at the end of the public meeting, I will moderate the closing comments at which time I will ask all of the discussion leaders to give me their viewpoints on how they understood the meeting proceeded. I think from that we will get some specific comments which can be dealt with by ERDA very soon.

MR. LIVINGSTON: Thank you very much. I conclude by saying it is very interesting listening to what has happened, but the future is what is important, because that is where we are going to be living for the rest of our lives. Thank you very much.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Mayor Livingston, I think you are a little too kind, because I wasn't satisfied with the answer to your question. As a resident of the Bay area, I would like to know how will those who have taken the time to be here know the results of the input that they have provided? What form will the response take and when?

MR. WALTERS: Mr. Chairman, if I could take one minute to try to respond to part of that concern.

One of the reasons that we are having public meetings is to try to get a goodly portion of the top leadership of ERDA out to the field to hear your concerns directly. At this public meeting, there is something like 25 percent or possibly

more of the top leadership of ERDA listening to your concerns directly.

So, I would say that that is kind of a feed in process. It may not be a feedback process, and, perhaps, you can never be sure of exactly which of your concerns are being actuated into reality. However, I do think that this very process is extremely valuable in the direct contact between people in making sure that we hear you, and I do believe that we are trying to listen, and I think that that may not be a complete answer or response to your question, but it is a very important aspect of what is going on.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you.

Dr. White.

DR. WHITE: I think I can understand why Mr. Livingston and others didn't think we gave an answer. I guess the reason is, simply, we don't have it.

This is the fifth meeting we have held, and the fact is I haven't heard this point raised quite this forcefully before. It is a very good point.

Jack King is our Director of Public Affairs back there, and I am going to task him to bring this up with ERDA management, because, while I am not sure any answer we could give you as to what we are going to do, even if it is nothing, about some things we have heard would satisfy, it does seem to me as a practical matter we could get back to some of the groups

have a point-by-point analysis of what the prospects are of acting in ERDA's future program on the key points that are made. This will take a lot of work. It is not something you do in a half an hour.

I think this could be a very constructive step both for you, and I think it would be rather good for us, perhaps, to come to grips with this problem and see what we can do.

I promise you to take this back to Mr. Fri and see if we can't actually act on this suggestion of feeding back reasonably promptly. Don't look for it in a couple of weeks, but we will try for a couple of months.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Good.

MR. LIVINGSTON: I just wanted to add that, in reference to why I asked the question, is that you will hear some very interesting remarks, and, if we don't have some time frame as to when you are going to respond, we are really wasting our time.

Thank you.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Yes?

MS. SPITZER: I am Edith Spitzer from Palm Springs, California.

I recently attended an ERDA hearing in Eugene, Oregon, where I happened to be vacationing. I thought we got a more direct response to that question.

We had a presentation of the problems in solving the

waste products -- taking care of waste products as far as nuclear energy was concerned, and I asked the question: isn't it reasonable that we should slow down and not continue with developing nuclear energy until these problems have been solved and are actually being used so that we know they are going to work. The ERDA answer to that was, no, we are not going to slow down our nuclear involvement.

Therefore, it is my opinion that this is an exercise in futility as Mr. Craf suggested. I think you are listening, and we are giving input, but there is going to be no change in the ERDA plan. The ERDA plan is set, and ERDA is selling the nuclear power option. They are not listening to the local areas when we tell them in Palm Springs we have solar, in Oregon we have many other sources of power, and that these are not being given the money that nuclear is being given. Therefore, they are not cost effective. If they were being given the money, they would be cost effective.

ERDA is not listening to this. They have already made up their mind, and this whole thing is an exercise in futility.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you.

I would like to hear from Linda Columbo, please.

MS. COLUMBO: Good afternoon. My name is Linda Columbo. I am with the California Energy Council, an ad hoc committee that has decided, "Wait just a minute. There are

groups of folks out here who are professing to represent the public, but they don't really represent our viewpoint."

Can the individual's voice be heard? I doubt it. In this Bicentennial Year, it seems appropriate to paraphrase a few of the basic truths from the Declaration of Independence:

All men are supposed to be created equal.

All men are born with rights that nobody can take away from them.

Some of these rights are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

That the purpose of government, which includes ERDA, is to preserve these rights for all men.

That the government is the servant of the people and gets its powers with the permission of the people.

In order to answer the question can the individual be heard, one must first explore where the energy policy is coming from now. Who is making our present energy policy? Are the people being heard?

There are government representatives such as the Energy Resources, Conservation and Development Commission in this state of California and the Energy Research and Development Administration on the Federal level. There are power producing representatives such as GE, Bechtel, Westinghouse, and a whole gamut of utilities. And there are special interest groups such as Friends of the Earth, Project Survival, Sierra

club professing a slow growth or no growth crisis-inducing philosophy under the guise of protecting our environment.

Nowhere but in the initiative process have the individuals been given the opportunity to be heard.

Given the occasion to condemn or condone California's energy direction for the future, the voters of California on the June 8th primary found and declared that nuclear power plants have no profound effects on planning for and land use of large areas of the state.

The people further found and declared that there are no substantial questions raised concerning the effect of nuclear fission power plants on land use and land use planning, as well as no substantial questions concerning public health and safety.

The people of California believe in the reliability of the performance of such plants, the reliability of the emergency systems, the security of the total fission process, and they are confident in regards to waste disposal.

The people of the state of California endorsed nuclear energy development by massive majority and, yet, the legislature of the state saw fit to pass three bills designed to slow the growth of nuclear energy based on the premise, and I quote, "That the current federal safety program has been rejected by the legislature, that the status quo is inadequate," a quote from Terry Cogin, author of two of the bills in the

California Energy Commission hearing on undergrounding September 14, 1976.

I was given five minutes. I am sorry. This is important.

It is obvious that the state legislature was unaware of the desires of the majority of its constituents. It cost the state of California millions of dollars to go through the process of bills, initiatives and legislative blackmail. It all could have been avoided had there been participation and cognizance of the real public sector rather than the advocates of low expectations and reversion to a Neanderthal-type of lifestyle.

True, the air was probably cleaner and the land hadn't been desecrated, but life was merely existence. In order to preserve the basic rights of life, rather than mere existence, it is the obligation of ERDA to ensure participation of all public segments and to educate the public to the real needs of energy.

To maintain a reliable electrical supply, ERDA has to sell its product. The main reason there have been questions concerning nuclear power is due to negligence on the part of all parties improperly educating the public. It is time a positive step is taken in energy education that includes energy alternatives for now and for the future.

Solar, geothermal, fission, fusion -- none can succeed

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without a proper strong education and instruction program. Part of the development phase of an energy policy-making body must include public awareness of the realities of all aspects of electrical generation.

A reliable supply of electrical energy is the life-blood of this nation. To err on the side of protecting environment may cost us that which the Declaration of Independence represents. A miscalculation regarding our future energy needs could establish an energy dependence from which we cannot recuperate.

It is virtually impossible for the private citizen to participate in energy planning as an individual. Until recently, the silent majority have been content to believe that the Government would preserve our rights and serve in the best interests of the people. This confidence is being eroded by the upsurge of what some call environmental groups. I prefer to call them -- for lack of a better word -- turkeys who are either unaware of a potential disaster their no-growth can develop or who are plotting to cause an energy crisis and, hence, destruction of the basic rights.

The individual cannot be heard. The problems facing any individual attempting to supply input are enormous. Number one, he cannot get to the politicians unless he is representing a group. There aren't enough votes in one person. He cannot get press coverage except through letters to the editor and,

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even though they are published, they carry very, very little weight. He cannot get to the policy makers unless he can persevere endless detours. He is obligated to finance his own efforts which may include long distance telephone calls, travel, postage to just about cover anything just with the possibility of being heard. He is faced with constant frustration of being unable to permeate the system of turkey versus government.

I thank you.

MODERATOR ROSENBERG: Thank you very much.

Well, those of you who have sat through this session so far certainly can't say that you have heard only one viewpoint.

Is there anyone who would like to comment on the last speaker's remarks? Yes.

MR. BLACK: I am Robert Black, a private citizen. I would like to make one small comment relative to the previous speaker, and that is that we do have an incomplete experiment here wherein the state of California enacted some legislation prior to the opportunity for voters to take a stand on Proposition 20, and we will never know what impact that legislation had upon the outcome at the polling booth.

If legislature had not passed those bills and the Governor had not signed them, the outcome of that proposition might have been at least somewhat different, and we will never

Acadcmy Court Reporters

know one way or the other.

I don't think the vote on the initiative gives us any indication of where the people stand on a whole variety of nuclear issues.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay. I have a friendly note that says, "Please remind those who have questions that, unless they give their name, they will appear in the transcript as Unidentified Speaker". So, if you choose to be anonymous, that is your business. But, if you want to be known, please identify yourself.

Yes, sir.

MR. GARZA: My name is John Garza, and, on behalf of this woman, she said that we aren't being heard as a public, and you say, "Okay", to that. All right. That is not an answer. We are saying how can we be heard?

We are here to reach you. We are here at our own expense, and what-have-you, but an answer of "okay" doesn't tell us how to get heard. So, what is your comment to that?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: I am not giving the answers to that.

MR. GARZA: Why not?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Because I am just trying to keep things together. This is not my stuff. I am just one of the folks who happens to have the mike. But I hear your question.

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Is there anyone who would like to comment further?

MR. WALTERS: Mr. Chairman, let me again remind you of our Consumer Representation Program, which I believe, once it gets off the ground, will be a prime vehicle for getting heard. The idea, the essential idea of the program, is to afford the opportunity to concerned citizens to make inputs into our decision-making process.

Now, I am talking only about ERDA. I got the impression you were talking about the Government-at-large. I can only speak for ERDA, but the Consumer Representation Program over the next six to twelve months should afford a realistic, meaningful avenue of access to ERDA's decision making process, and that, in our view, is the most effective way to make impact.

MR. GARZA: You see, realistically I feel that we are spending too much money on a source that you are using as power, such as nuclear power. We are talking in the billions. There is a laser that they have spent $20 billion on, and they haven't even been able to propel its power yet.

Quoting the Nuclear Regulator Commissioner, he says that the Correl-Down(?) of conventional nuclear power plants would kill 3,300 persons immediately and another 33,000 people over a certain period of time.

Now, you people are stressing a power source that is too costly. The plants cost too much. Then to even mine and come up with a finished nuclear power to use is too costly.

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there are better means.

I don't know why you are pushing it. You people are saying it kills, and that is a proven fact, but the cost is astronomical, let alone for the plant.

Certain solar means is feasible. Like right now I am really into tide and wave power. I mean, now that is a solar energy, a thermal energy, and also hydro. We have had that power since Day One of the earth, and we will continue to have that power until the earth ends. It does not cost anything to use that as a fuel. It takes no mining and you have no waste factor.

I can't understand why you are spending so many billions of dollars on something that -- you people even say that the fuel will deplenish within 25 years. Right now you have access to certain amounts of fuel, but it will be depleted by the year 2000. Then what? What is the next step after you have spent all these billions of dollars on something that we don't have?

MR. GRAF: Could I make one comment?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Yes.

MR. GRAF: Could I make one comment as a turkey?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: You are a little bit early, but have at it.

MR. GRAF: Thank you. I would respond to Ms. Columbo in one way. I think that individuals in this society,

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given the number of people we have, effectively can't speak unless they get organized into groups who generally concur in the views and positions that they have. I would ask those of you who are here who think of themselves as turkeys to support with their money and their individual initiative the positions that groups like the one I work with promote and, for those who believe in positions favoring nuclear power that Ms. Columbo believes in, they should organize as well. I think that is the only way we are going to have any impact on the bureaucrats who actually run things.

MS. SIEGEL: Mr. Moderator, could I make another suggestion?

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Yes.

MS. SIEGEL: The extension to the Federal Energy Administration which extends the agency to 1977 includes with it an appropriation of $2,000,000 for public intervention.

Now, that appropriation, though included in the bill, has not been made by Congress. I think that those people who are interested in this process ought to push for Congressional appropriation of that specific item which, admittedly, is a small drop in the bucket, and also to talk to your Congress-people about getting appropriate funding for public participation for ERDA in other agencies responsible for our safety and life.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you.

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Jim Harding?

MR. HARDING: Thank you. I just wanted to make a couple brief remarks on your statement, and, just to give you some cause for optimism, I think there have been fairly sophisticated analyses done in Canada, in Denmark and in Japan identifying, in some considerable detail, the steps they would have to take in 50 years to convert their entire economies to the use of renewable energy resources. They include some of the technologies of which you are speaking, wind power and tidal power being possibly especially applicable for Japan.

Moreover, some of the estimates, although quite preliminary, show that the difficulty and the economy involved in achieving those scenarios is probably no more difficult than the amount of time and energy it takes to build liquid metal breeder reactors and fusion reactors necessary to build the more conventional energy systems 50 years hence.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: We are not going to get into a long discussion about the various forms of energy, because that is not the subject of this panel, if you don't mind. But thank you very much for your comments.

Yes.

MR. MARRICK: I am Ed Marrick with the California Natural Resources Federation which is an affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.

I would like to pose two questions that I think deal

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specifically with the subject of how do you get the public to participate, how can you hear their voice.

I would suggest to you gentlemen that you might consider going to the IRS and have them put a block on our tax return form with a check-off in it, and it would list nuclear power, ocean power, solar power, whatever you like, candles and bear fat. Check it off so that you want a dollar of your taxes to go to that project vis a vis some other one.

The Congress then, in its wisdom, could say, for every dollar ERDA got from the public voice, they would add a multiplicative factor of one or ten or 1,000 or whatever seemed appropriate.

I offer you that suggestion. Secondly, it seems to me that you are overlooking a very, very vital public communication that exists, that is realy, that has been going on for quite awhile, namely the 55 mile an hour speed limit. The public is not listening. It isn't following it. Why aren't you people doing a better job?

That is your problem, ERDA. Why doesn't the public believe it? If you are communicating that simple fact to them, I suggest you are not carrying out your duty at all, and there is no point in seeking further public communication. You can't handle it when you have many millions of votes already.

A VOICE: What about the public's responsibility

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there? Are you doing it?

MR. MARRICK: The answer to that question is yes. However, if you look at the voting that is being carried out, responses in the San Francisco "Chronicle" of last week where they interviewed the public, in general, the overwhelming majority are in opposition to the 55 mile an hour speed limit.

Secondly, one of the truckers' magazines this month has come out -- this is dealing with the CB problem -- with an article again in opposition of the 55 mile an hour limit and is suggesting -- and I may err in the dates -- that in the period from October 15th to October 25th that all truckers maintain the 55 mile an hour speed limit in order to create immense traffic jams.

I suggest the communication problem, gentlemen, is in your laps.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay. I would like to hear, if we can, from Ed Owen.

MR. OWEN: My name is Ed Owen. I am unaffiliated, and I am from Sacramento. The young lady here is passing out the things that I will leave for you other people here.

I will be as brief as I possibly can. I agree with the lady who spoke about the ERDA having a set plan. I will agree with that. This is the deviation from what I started out with, but, when Mr. Walters said that ERDA hopes to take

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the public input and somehow mold it into what is already existing. I wonder what is going to happen if somebody comes up with something that the EPDA has not anticipated.

Now, in Sacramento County, there were 200,000 votes cast in the question of the nuclear initiative, the Proposition 15. Now, the fact that these people took the trouble to go out there and vote about that part of energy anyway indicates that there were 200,000 in Sacramento County who had some kind of interest in energy.

At the meeting preparing for this meeting here, the one that was held in Sacramento, there were 25 people present. Now, that is 25 over 200,000. What kind of public participation is that? It just plain doesn't exist.

Now, my reason for being here today -- and I am not going to read the whole five pages. I am just going to skim over this and leave these things at the doorway up there and you people can pick them up as you go out -- my reason for being here today is to get whatever backing I can get from any source that I can accept and I can find.

For one thing, I want EPDA to say, when they have looked this plan over, that it is a good plan for public participation. I want EPDA to officially say that and to furnish me with the credentials to the effect that EPDA has approved of the plan right down to the position that, as originator of the plan, I should be organizer of the prototype

Ross Reporting Service

in Sacramento.

Now, this is a little bit involved. I can't tell you, in three words or less, what is on here, but I will leave it out there for you.

The thing is that I don't want to leave my plan in the hands of ERDA to do or anybody else, because I don't think that anybody else thinks like I do. That is what I have to say.

I am, by no means alone, in a passion for public participation. This is a very, very strong thing among top-notch scientists. Paul Ehrlich believes in it. Feld, the physics professor from Harvard who was the youngest member of the Manhattan Project believes in it. He is not talking about the gas company coming to talk to you. That is not the public. The public is out there on the street, the kind of guys who say, "Go 70 miles an hour," you know? You have to get to them, and you have to talk to them, and you have to listen to them. That is what you have to do.

ERDA or any other Government agency has to listen to the people and do what the people say, because they have more sense than all the rest of us.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you very much, and thank you, Mr. Owen, for taking the time to prepare your point of view so completely.

Harold Weber?

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MR. WEBER: My name is Harold Weber. I am a professional engineer speaking as an individual.

Many of the remarks that have been made here make mine seem rather repetitive. So, I will try to cut it short.

There was a statement in the National Plan that says "The large body of energy information now available to the public is generated by many sources with conflicting interests and different perspectives. It is difficult for the public to determine what information is credible."

This certainly is the problem of promoting clear lines of communication between the energy industry and the public. I feel ERDA is making a sincere effort in this direction and, since public awareness is one of the stated objectives of the national plan, it is to an intensification of this effort that I would like to address my remarks.

Recalling the propaganda on both sides of the nuclear initiative, it was evident that renowned experts in the field of nuclear technology espousing diametrically opposing views could not all be correct in their assessment of the issue. Who, then, should be most competent to separate the special interest biases from the completely valid facts?

I submit this is not an easy question to answer, but I am sure, however, that an informed public awareness will be quite dependent upon an energy industry awareness of its responsibility to present the complete and unbiased

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version of the nuclear story to the public.

I am also sure that EPA must be out in front in placing completely valid information before the public to enable it to better understand and evaluate the information it receives from all sources. When any branch of the energy industry, and I include EPA in this category, publishes information which at least has the appearance of bias in the direction of proliferation of nuclear energy as opposed to other forms of energy, it leaves the credibility factor completely open to question.

I will only give one example of this rather than going into the number that I have listed here. The public is concerned about the available information relative to reactor safety, the chances of a nuclear accident and the seriousness of the latent or long-term health effects of a possible accident.

The energy industry almost always quotes the one in five billion statistic from the Rasmussen Study relative to the chances of an individual fatality from a nuclear accident. Seldom, if ever, do we hear the statistic from the same report which says, "The bulk of the cancers and thyroid nodules would occur over a few decades and the genetic effects would be significantly reduced in five generations."

Now, these are not the words of the prophets of doom. They are from the same authoritative report mentioned above

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and should be given equal consideration in any risk acceptability evaluation. It is a nine volume, 70 man year, $4,000,000 study, and to say it all boils down to the one in five billion statistic does a serious disservice to the credibility of the study, to those who quote the statistic, and to the public who have great difficulty in determining the credibility of the information available to them.

I would welcome the opportunity of further discussion of this subject. I have only this much time available. I feel it is a basic necessity in the establishment of public confidence and in the implementation of the National Plan creating energy choices for the future.

Thank you.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you very much, Mr. Weber.

Is there anyone with a great compulsion to share one minute's worth of wisdom with us? I am going to be quite ruthless at this point, and give you one minute, no more, so that we can all leave together.

MS. HALE: I just want to suggest to Mr. Walters that in the --

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Can you give your name?

MS. HALE: Catherine Hale, excuse me, from Reno, Nevada.

In the interests of consumer information, when asked a question to which you plead not knowing the answer because

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you are a new club -- EPOA is only a year and a half old -- and then answering other questions by stating that you have 30 years of scientific expertise for which we should be most appreciative, I believe that there is a conflict there and that you should stand on your 30 years of experience and not ever plead youthful behavior, and I don't really need any kind of response.

Thank you very much, sir.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Yes, sir. Last shot.

MR. WINKLE: My name is Steven Winkle. I live in San Francisco, and I would like more than a minute, because I did sign up to speak. If there was a breakdown in communication, I am sorry, but I will make it brief.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: You will have to, because, otherwise, people will vote with their feet.

MR. WINKLE: Very well.. They can leave if they like. I am going to ask them to vote with their hands, while I am speaking anyway.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Okay.

MR. WINKLE: I am apparently somewhat of an endangered species, according to Mr. Graf. I am not representing any great cause, any technology or any product here which a lot of people seem to be doing, and the structure of this program is set up so that the Government appears to be talking to us rather than the other way around.

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I would submit that on some kind of a panel like this the speakers on the dais should be limited to two or three minutes, and the limit in the audience should be ten to fifteen minutes.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Well, let me suggest that we not take more of your time discussing that at this point.

MR. WINKLE: Very well.

One thing I would like to know is how many people at the workshop -- if you would show hands. You don't have to if you don't want to -- are here on a paid basis? First, how many are here paid by the Government, like by ERDA and state and local governments, as well as on the dais?

(There was a show of hands.)

How many people here are representing products or technologies who are here paid by engineering firms or other than public interest groups?

(There was a show of hands.)

There are a few. There are actually less than I thought if everyone is being honest, and I thank you for that.

The one thing I would like to speak to is Mr. Valentine's and Mr. Rossman's comments this morning on some facility for increasing public input on things like this. I am here unpaid. I am not getting any compensation for this, and I think there should be some kind of thing worked into labor/management arrangements and some kind of thing worked

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into employee/employer relationships, if they are not in labor unions, where people could get paid days off or paid leave to come and speak to public bodies. We would be something akin to Armed Forces Reserve Service or akin to jury duty, and it would be something that would be the employee's decision, not the employer's decision.

Thank you.

MODERATOR ROTHENBERG: Thank you very much.

Just an unsolicited observation in closing. I mentioned at the beginning that I am probably the least expert person in this room in the field of energy, but I have spent some 30 years in just working with people. There is a point that I don't believe was persuasively made by either or any of the points of any of the speakers this morning, and that is what is the nature of communication with consumers, what kind of involvement are we talking about?

For example, if a Governmental agency really wants consumer reaction, it had best come with a draft plan to the consumer, not a loose "please tell us what you want", because that is a phony. There is no framework in which to put the consumer proposals. Nor should it be more than a draft plan, at least in the approach, because, if it is a fixed plan, then it is a phony, because you are saying, "We will listen to you, but we have made up our minds already," and we are simply going to have a papier mache over it.

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I am not saying that in any sense as an attack on the ladies and gentlemen who have spoken this morning, but as a generality.

The follow-up of the plan, proposal, is crucial, and what happens in too many governmental and private institutions is that the policy-makers are not convinced in their hearts and in their guts that they need the participation of the public in decision making. You really have to believe it.

You see, if you believe it, then you will find the mechanisms and you don't need a conference of this kind to get proposals as to what the mechanisms will be. If you don't believe in your gut that you need the participation of consumers, then you go through the motions and, in the opinion of some who have expressed themselves here, this conference is going through the motions, and that is the message that I am getting.

So, I am saying, based upon the experience I have had in a variety of activities, that there is no wise decision made if it is made in an elitist fashion. It won't hold. On the contrary, if you go to the people with an open mind and with a genuine belief that the common wisdom of the people will be a guide, you are going to end up in a longer, slower, tortuous process called democracy with wiser decisions, and I hope that that is the kind of theme that we tried to get across this morning.

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Thank you very much.

Let me give my thanks, too, to all of you on the panel and all in the audience who took the trouble to prepare.

(Whereupon, at 12:50 o'clock p.m., the workshop was adjourned.)

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STATEMENT SUBMITTED BY: MR. THOMAS O. SCHOOLEY
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT - SESCO
2130 PIEDRAS DRIVE
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93103

As the title of this paper suggests, I totally disagree with the program presented here as well as in other cities. Every man and woman in this room is fully aware of our energy dependence upon foreign sources. We all likewise are aware of the absolutely finite world-wide inventory of petroleum products. To be discussing same at this point of time seems to me to be academic.

Recognizing the severity of our situation as it is described in our national plan, for us to comment on vague topics is hypocritical. Thus, I believe, we in industry should be suggesting management techniques to implement our national plan as it is currently constituted and to stand behind ERDA regardless of difficulties we may have with individuals within this organization. More succinctly put, was ERDA a private company, it would have been in Chapter 11 months ago. Why?

On October 11, 1974, Bob Seamans was charged with the responsibility of setting up an agency to develop new and improved energy souces and utilization technologies consistent with sound environmental and safety practices which would lead our country to energy independence. He was to have broad authority in establishing and managing the same. This

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generalized statement appears to read well, but it has never been implemented.

Consider for a moment how you would feel in Dr. Seamans's position as the president of a private company. Over 300 Federal bureaus, 35 Congressional committees, and 500 state government agencies have legal jurisdiction in energy affairs. Over 3,000 trade, professional and citizen associations are involved in attempting to set energy policy. All of the above operate outside of ERDA's so-called authority.

As if the above were not enough, your company treasurer, in this case O.M.B., refuses to give you a budget, a source and application of funds statement or even a capital expenditure appropriation synopsis. In addition, your comptroller, by definition of his position, has a dual loyalty which is inherently divisive.

In other words, staff and line responsibilities are confused. Program managers operating under the arduous and time consuming rules, finally approve a project only to have the comptroller's office cancel the same. This is not an attempt by this office to manage ERDA, but rather the fact that persons such as the comptroller are placed in the delicate position of serving more than one master.

We, in private industry, must demand that positions of arbitrage such as this cease to exist. Further insulting the integrity of ERDA's authority is the fact that six

Lewis Reporting Company

assistant administrators report to Congress rather than line management as Congress appoints the same.

Dr. Seamans deserves and must have a base of authority equal to that we enjoy in private industry in a similar position. For the coup de grace, you are faced with pressure being placed on your subordinates by the most sophisticated, well financed and well organized private interest group ever to appear on the scene of American business. This is, of course, the energy cartel.

To digress for a moment, let us once again not be hypocritical, but recognize facts. We do not have an oil monopoly in the United States, instead we have an energy cartel. The cartel, a well known type of business organization in Europe, has 100 times the power and/or the resources of a simply monopoly. Compounding the problem is the fact that it is not domestic in nature, but rather it is multinational in composition.

Once again, trying to be pragmatic, let us set matters straight. Congress and our legal system is not equipped to handle such a business combination. As a small businessman, I detest the pressure this group can place upon me. On the other hand, if I were working for them, I would certainly do everything in my power to take advantage of the particular energy situation our country is in.

At first blush, the situation looks pretty bleak:

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42 percent imported oil, majority control of the coal industry by the cartel, serious inroads into the nuclear field by the cartel, suppression of FEA documentation to Congress at the insistence of the cartel, the recent GAO report which, if not written by, certainly supports the position of the cartel, O.M.B.'s lack of technical competence while attempting to regulate ERDA, and, most importantly, absolute lack of knowledge of the true situation on the part of the average citizen.

An in-depth look at the state of the art technologies, however, reveals a curious fact. Synthetic and alternate energy field advancements are controlled not by the cartel but by small industry.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have today the necessary technology to implement ERDA's national plan. I believe it is up to us, as industry's spokesmen, to assist this agency in accomplishing the same. Collectively, small business may not have the money or lobbying power of the energy cartel, but what we do have is the technology and we are going to keep it. How can we help ERDA is the paramount question.

We must use our best efforts to emphasize the need for real rather than token authority to be vested in this agency. We must ask that ERDA be made responsible for giving us consistent guidelines relevant to interfacing problems with other government agencies. We must demand that a consistent procurement policy be established. We must provide those

Sharp Reporting Company

people within ERDA with whom we work the backing necessary for them to answer the various non-technical and unsophisticated attacks made against them by other agencies.

In summary, we must act as a staff to provide ERDA with the proper input to carry out its proper management role. If we don't, we, in all good conscience, cannot attack the lack of management existing today in ERDA.

Without definitive suggestions, I would be guilty of the same generalizations of your meeting's program that I have criticized. Before going into my field, let us start with the office sponsoring this meeting. Bob Thorne has tremendous responsibilities, but not authority. He must and should be given official status and appropriate funding. To have an office that both is and is not a regional jurisdictional center, has got to be frustrating.

The same problem exists in Atlanta, Denver, Chicago, et cetera. On the part of the small businessman, many of whose products are designed to meet regional needs, we must have a strong and well financed ERDA regional network that we can both work with and directly hold responsible for inadequacies within the system.

I work in the synthetic fuel field, and I am a small businessman. My area has been maligned, and I want something done about it. ERDA was mandated by Congressional directive to establish a small business office. This has not been done.

Foxe's Reporting Company

We want it to be done. The Office of Technology's assessment of ERDA had the comment that ERDA lacked tenerity. This should stop. Other branches of the Federal government having authority over areas properly belonging to ERDA must transfer the same back to ERDA where it properly and legally belongs.

To cite a specific example, the National Bureau of Standards has interpreted Section 14 of the Non-Nuclear Act to mean that it has sole authority to pass judgement upon all non-nuclear energy inventions. Report No. 94-332, pages 83-84 of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs specifically shows the above not to be true. ERDA is held responsible.

Eric Willis' branch, Institutional Relations, must be strengthened both in terms of funding and personnel. I use this area as an example to prove the necessity of the absolute requirement for ERDA to have the authority, as well as the responsibility, to carry out its delegated duties.

NBS, operating with a staff of some 21 people and an annual budget of approximately $1,500,000, has managed to accomplish the following in about two years:

Of over 4,000 proposals submitted to same, as today eight have been submitted to ERDA and of the eight one has been funded for a total of $1,500. This, ladies and gentlemen, is the current input to solving our energy crisis and implementing our national plan on the part of the small business innovators. Need I say more?

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Once again, we must be pragmatic. Those of us who understand the interworkings of ERDA know that we have two other routes to follow. We may either submit an unsolicited proposal directly or we may respond to an RFP if we are lucky enough to get on a preferred bidders' list. Sounds reasonable? Not true.

ERDA is once again stymied by O.M.B. This week they are being asked to submit definitive allocation request for monies for programs and/or projects they are not even currently aware of. This situation could not exist in private industry. We must, as a group, support ERDA in mandating that funding, such as the current 1973 budget, provides for development in alternate energy and conservation fields without specific identification. Ladies and gentlemen, if we can accomplish nothing else at this conference, let us at least agree on this simple point.

One other area that we specifically work with that desperately needs funding and additional personnel is Dr. Ecklund's office under Dr. Brogan. This man, Gene, almost alone, technically is aware of internal combustion development. Without staff or funding he is handcuffed. Therefore, once again, technically incompetent people, through a myriad of agencies, have filled the vacuum created by the lack of ERDA management.

Many small businesses have been bankrupted by virtue

Sykes Reporting Company

of the above situation. Although I could list many other areas wherein other agencies have abrogated ERDA's rightful function, I shall rest my case on the above. Suffice to say ERDA must be strengthened so that proper management can take place. Otherwise, we have no one to hold responsible for the inadequacies of our energy policy.

I mentioned earlier the effect of the cartel upon Federal energy agencies. ERDA is not immune from the same. The patent policies affecting ERDA's energy programs most definitely adhere to the cartel's benefit. As stated in ERDA 76-16, the small businessman and universities' comments were uniform and, to a man, verified this belief. This policy allows for mandatory compulsory licensing.

I suggest that all small businessmen in attendance closely read the same. Despite overwhelming testimony proposing that we be allwed to retain title to our inventions, ERDA rejected this position and, as of this moment, has stated it has the right to the same. At this point Government lawyers will undoubtedly state, "Not so. We have a waiver policy."

Let us examine same. The cartel and/or its satellites have been given the benefits of same, but not the small independent. This is a matter of record. Due to this fact, many ERDA people have state to me personally that I should have nothing to do with ERDA. This obviously raises the conclusion that ERDA wishes to erase the small businessman.

Court Reporting Company

We need ERDA in a strong and well defined posture, but they damn well should recognize they likewise need us.

If each of you in this meeting has suggested specific recommendations for the improvement of ERDA providing for its being able to take its rightful managerial role, I believe ERDA would be embarked in implementing our national plan in a manner similar to our accomplishing NAS 9-150 or, in layman's terms, the Apollo project.

I appreciate the opportunity to address this meeting and honestly believe that I have given nothing but factual information. I again ask my colleagues to support ERDA, but, likewise, demand that ERDA should support us.

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STATEMENT SUBMITTED BY: MR. ED OWEN

MR. OWEN: Making blunt statements is seldom considered tactful, but neither is obvious obliqueness. So here I go.

It might be a good thing if public relations people for energy producers would be careful to spell out what they mean when they talk about public participation. By some meanings of the term what actually occurs is not at all public participation.

In energy affairs probably the best attended do I ever heard of took place at Hughes Stadium, and I wouldn't call that a really persistent effort since it took place once

Tower Reporting Company

only. I just can't think of anything I ever knew about that was both real down in the dirt and sizeable.

The day I am writing this, just by way of getting my facts fairly straight, I called the State Election Board. California cast almost 2,000,000 votes to favor the nuclear initiative last June. That was about 35,000 less than one third of the nearly 6,000,000 total. Sacramento County cast 79,000 yes votes, and that was 12,000 more than one third of all the votes.

Yet, when a public meeting to prepare for this present meeting was held in Sacramento, there were about 25 people present.

Do you realize what percentage that is? It is about 31/1000 of one percent.

When that happens once, there can be no reasonable claim that any important degree of public participation is extant. The only reason I can attribute to such a thing is that no adequate effort has been made to interest the general public. I think myself, that the main reason for that is that all the time and money has been taken up in coddling industry, a condition which, all things considered, such as that most of the experts went to the same kind of schools, because there aren't all that many different ones, is not to unexplainable.

I think the time is long overdue when someone should make the aforesaid adequate effort, and I think I know

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how to.

My reason for being here today is to get whatever backing I can get and can accept from any source I can find.

For one thing, I want ERDA to say that my public participation plan is a good one. I want ERDA to officially say that and to furnish me with credentials to the effect that ERDA has approved of the plan, right down to the position that, as originator of the plan, I should be organizer of the prototype.

Sixty pages of July/August "Skeptic", a Santa Barbara nonpartisan, are a virtual nuclear debate. In this I will refer to four of at least 15 big names who contributed, and to two others who were not published in that particular article.

It is my idea that Government should fully mobilize the general public, encourage and develop initiative in energy matters by the general public, because there is a bias in some of the attitudes of officials of industry, Government and education which casts the general public in the role of captive audience with a loveable tiger in its tank. So-called public meetings are usually dominated by elite representatives of private industry, for instance.

Three outstanding proponents of public participation in energy are Dr. Paul Ehrlic, the Stanford biologist, a Notre Dame physicist whose name I mis-remember, but who was on

Bowne Reporting Company Audience Participation

a NASA space project, and Dr. Bernard Feld of Harvard of whom there will be more later. What puffs me up is that, expressed differently from mine and even from each other's, their basic ideas about public participation are very similar to mine. This not only is considerably flattering to me, it also increases my assumption that I have something to say that is worth hearing.

Richard A. McCormack, President of General Atomic Company's Power Systems, says the problems inherent in the establishment of nuclear power in the private sector are of a magnitude that was never appreciated and that the nuclear power business is a sick industry.

Mike McCormack says there is "a sort of anti-nuclear, anti-technical Mc Carthyism". He says the public doesn't vote on whether 747's or DC10's should fly -- Mike: they wouldn't allow us to vote: they said they were not noisy and why didn't we quit opposing progress -- He says we don't vote on the width, materials nor structure of roads and bridges nor even on how many people should ride in an elevator. He says the public hires experts to do those things and that the public puts its faith in these experts, and, therefore, should also put faith in nuclear experts.

Well, Mr. McCormack to at one and the same time be an anti-technical neo-McCarthyite and have faith in technical experts would be either a most remarkable trick or schizophrenia.

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But there is something else. Cynicism and indignation were usually very present in the attitude toward nearly all public figures displayed by really most of the people I have ever spoken with. In retrospect, this seems especially so when those thus in the public eye were also touted as experts in public works. If, to wonder loud and long what the hell them guys are up to now is faith, maybe the people I know had faith.

An interviewer said to Dixie Lee Ray that most laymen are confronted with barrages of argument about nukes by professionals who oppose each other. She said it is like making a choice between medical experts, "you pays your money, and you takes your choice."

Well, okay, lady. Professor Feld says energy cannot be left in the hands of the experts, and those are my sentiments, too. I have a plan alternative to elitism and expertocracy.

PARTICIPATION AND INITIATIVE BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Among a great many other notable accomplishments, Dr. Bernard Feld is a physics professor at Harvard. He was the youngest scientist with the Manhattan Project. In an article on nuclear power published in July, 1976, he signed off with these words:

> "The correct path is by no means obvious. But one thing is clear: making the decisions demands knowledge of all the facts and their

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judicious weighing. Nor can it be left to the "experts". If war is too important to be left to the generals, then humankind's future is certainly too important to be left to the technocrats."

I think that what he says applies to all of energy, not only nukes.

1. In my lifetime, science and the scientific community has always been very responsive to public outcry. That is a plus. Besides, as persons and as a category, scientists compared to the rest of us are impressively and even awesomely knowledgeable. But there is a natural qualification to that.

It is an easy thing to forget or overlook, and it is not easy to realize that, great as the knowledge of science or of any one scientist may be, it is in any field much less than the sum total of all human knowledge. In any field, that resides in all the people.

Therefore, there is no better insurance against the erosion of integrity threatened by pressures from "special interest" groups than for the scientific community to encourage the full participation and untrammeled initiative of the general public in all phases of constructive energy effort. It is unscientific to leave it to the experts.

And, if science needs to be kept in line, the private

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sector is in hysterical need of correction. Private industry's main reason for being is the aggrandisement of private industry: everything else is secondary, second fiddle.

We are told that high energy is too intricate and volatile for the general public. I believe it. Thanks to what a great many of the experts of private industry are doing in the nuke business. I would say there are so very few who are indisputably qualified to cope with nucleonics that they ought to give up their toying with it. Furthermore, the entire idea of grave necessity for high energy apparatus is -- both -- no more than a progressively, cumulatively erroneous fabrication by the experts of private industry and still not an answer. For, if we do not convince ourselves that our main energy problem is to learn how to avoid squandering it, we would run out of energy if everyone had his own 100 kilowatt generator and a private gas well.

As the situation stands, full mobilization of the general public for clean, inexhaustible, plentiful, cheap and progressively cheaper energy sources, and systems for their use, is necessary to a balanced energy effort and essential to intelligent solution to the many problems related to such effort.

1a. Economic Growth is the golden idol of Red Carpet Industry. They keep feeding it tidbits.

Repairs and replacements on consumer items with

Sperry Rand Corporation

built-in obsolescence are figured into the GNP; and we are told in stentorian tones that the GNP is the -- fanfares and flourishes -- Index of Economic Growth. Estimations of future energy needs nearly always base in Economic Growth and in a padded, exaggerated concept of it so that the energy projection is for excessive use and overproduction. Here are contrasting projections stated in plain English:

ECONOMIC GROWTH PROJECTION

Our energy needs get bigger each year. By 19XY, we will need Y number of new power plants. This is a big public service. Government must share costs of building. Profits go to power companies who will promote still bigger power use.

BUDGETED PROJECTION

By year's end, Y number of plants will be producing Y amount of energy. That is what we have to live on and, if we want to have enough for our needs, we can't overload the system.

In the eyes of an ordinary, everyday, run-of-the-mill person, which of these would seem to make most sense:

2a. I believe we have reached new frontiers and that we are confronted with choices we cannot evade. I believe that public domain in all matters of importance to the general public, full participation in and initiative by the general public in such matters, including energy, is essential to any

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adequate solution.

2b. The table below appears in the famous and controversial report of sub panel IX of the Atomic Energy Commission. There is something fantastic about it. If you add two items, Conservation and -- a qualified -- Miscellaneous, all possible energy sources alternative to fossils and nucleonics are contemplated.

1. Heating and cooling of buildings (HCB)

2. Solar Thermal Conversion Systems (STC)

3. Wind Electric Power Systems (WEP)

4. Bioconversion to Fuels (BCF)

5. Ocean Thereal Electric Power Systems (OTEP)

6. Photovoltaic Electric Power Systems (PEP)

I don't know what, if anything, that does for you. It gives me a point to guide on.

2c. What if each state had an energy commission working closely with ERDA?

2d. What if each county had a plebiscitically elected section of it?

2e. What if there were a sun project for each of the eight items on the revised table, each with an elected

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director?

25. What if each sun project met once a week, made a synoptic report to the county which made weekly all-project reports to the state which made a monthly all-section report to ERDA?

California should be the pilot state.

Sacramento, as capital, should have the prototype project.

It is my baby, so I should be organizer of the prototype.

ERDA buys paper, printing, postage, telephone and advertising for both the prototype and all county solar sections.

The sun projects, when and as they request them, need shop work or shop access, personnel or freight transit, equipment with operators if needed, acreage for temporary project use. State, county and city supply this as well as office furniture and machines and stenography, et cetera.

As far as possible, other work of the section will be voluntary and unpaid, but the prototype will have a petty cash account and expenses paid people, if that is necessary.

Meeting place suggestions include Memorial Auditorium, the "Taj Mahal", Governor's mansion and grounds, Calexpo.

Parking lot and store window and bus signs with "take-one" folders, also newspaper ads, would display:

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"Meetings every night -- 7 to 10 p.m.

Memorial Auditorium -- 15th and K Streets

Project office same address open every day 10 a.m. to 10 p.m."

Inside, the folder would read:

"Sunday -- heating and cooling

Sunday -- conservation

Monday -- solar thermals

Tuesday -- wind, direct and electric

Wednesday -- bioconverted fuels

Thursday -- ocean thermal, wave-lift, currents, barged machines, et cetera

Friday -- photovoltaics, et cetera

Saturday -- miscellaneous: clean, inexhaustible, plentiful, cheap energy souces and systems."

Officals for the prototype are appointed pro tem by the organizer.

The prototype is to evolve into a solar section elected as at 23.

THE PROTOTYPE PROJECT

ORGANIZER Ed Owen, 918 25th Street, Sacramento 95816

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Three members, the provisional solar section of the State Energy Commission)

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SWI PROJECTS

(each with a director)

a. Heating and cooling

b. Conservation

c. Wind

d. Bioconversion

e. Ocean energy

f. Photovoltaic

g. Solar therm

h. Miscellaneous

Tedium has its uses. Most science and all manipulation of the public mind -- sudden realization -- or private mind, for that matter, is based in tedium. So, I will redundate, if that is a word. I want ERDA to approve, finance, creditial and otherwise fully implement me in organizing the prototype, using my own organizational methods.

How many of you listening to this do not know that the delegation of a task of whose importance you yourself are most convinced is great if it succeeds but that there really are times when, if you want a thing done right, you do it yourself? Well, that is how I feel. That is why I wrote the bottom paragraph of the first page of this.

I will ask you now to again read that paragraph.

Thank you for your attention.

(Whereupon, at 12:50 p.m., the Workshop was adjourned.)

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